



NEW ZEALAND'S NO.1 GAMING MAGAZINE

ISSUE 32 DEC '99/ JAN '2000

THE FUTURE IS HERE Dreamcast 2000 calendar inside!!







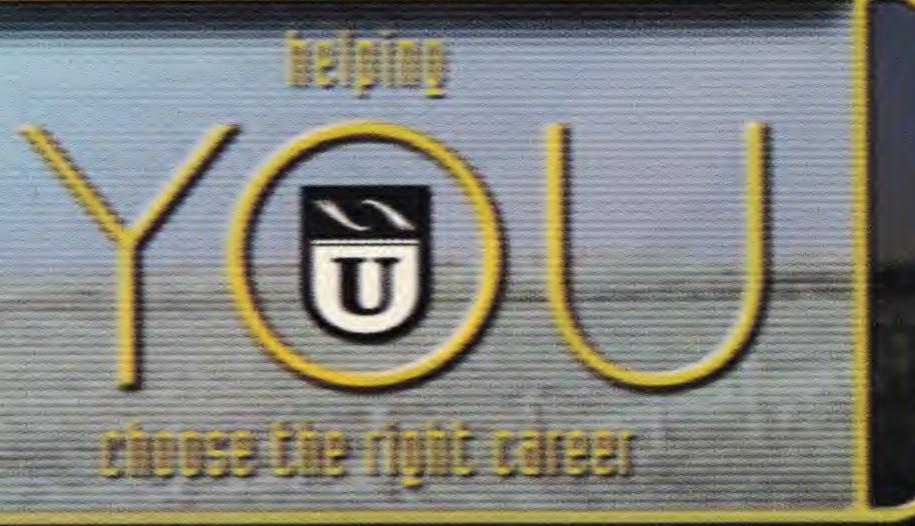
Microsoft Sidewinder Dual strike reviewed.

TOD BAYE SEIEFEL



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EDITOR'S NOTES

old onto your hats because Dreamcast has arrived and boy, has it been worth the wait! It's been a struggle getting this issue out. Some of us have had to be dragged kicking and screaming away from Sega's wonder machine. It truly is the beginning of a new generation of entertainment, so hold on - it's going to be a wild ride.

We review a bumper selection of the best early Dreamcast games, including the huge Sonic Adventures, the ghoulish House of the Dead 2 and the best fighting game ever seen on a home console, Soul Calibur. Also you'll notice a special Dreamcast calendar pull-out in the centre of the magazine, which is our Christmas gift to you.

This is Soccer has arrived for PlayStation and will keep fans dribbling and chipping away happily over the long hot summer months. I reckon it's the best soccer game available on

any console.

PC owners should start saving their pennies now for Unreal Tournament. It's the most heart-stopping, hand cramping third person shooter ever. Internet gaming will never be the same again.

We also take another look at four games we expect to be huge this summer: Dino Crisis, Mission: Impossible, Crash Team Racing and Age of Empires 2. Yeah, we've reviewed them before but we thought some more screen shots and a few gameplay tips would help whet your appetite.

I hope you enjoy our bumper holiday issue. We are taking a break for summer but fear not; we'll be back in February with the latest gaming news from all over the planet. Have a safe summer and don't let the millennium bug bite.

Merry Christmas from the crew at Total Games. A

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- G T Interactive Games Hotline (PC, N64, PlayStation) 0900 51122
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- Ozisoft Games Hotline (Sega, N64, PlayStation) 0900 57342
- Sony PlayStation Powerline 0900 97669
- Electronic Arts Hotline 0900 58885
- Call cost per minute varies. Children ask parents first.

STORY

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A FRIGHTFULLY GOOD OFFER!



The Mummy is released on DVD in mid January 2000.
Pre-order it at Box Office On-Line and save 10% on the retail price.



This prerelease offer is only available from

www.ebox.co.nz

Please note the cover artwork for the DVD may differ from that shown.

and gone again, showcasing the computer industry's hottest new games and technologies. This year it was held at Auckland's Greenlane convention centre on the first weekend of November and attracted computer lovers, gamers and the curious from all walks of life.

As always Microsoft had a strong

undisputed king of flying experiences.

One corner of the convention centre was set aside especially for gamers.

Inside this dark and threatening space, a giant disco ball flashed madly overhead as bloodthirsty gamers blasted each other to smithereens on multiplayer games of Quake 3 and Unreal Tournament. The sound of gunfire and the screams of

severely tested my abilities. It's clear that I'll need a lot more practice if I hope to be competitive in the Harvey Norman Challenge to find New Zealand's best Unreal Player. To tell the truth I got fragged!

The competition was also hot at the Vix Driving Seat stand. Racers were queuing up to try their luck on Formula One '99 and loving every



Totally Wired Expo

a huge stand promoting their massive game of medieval conquest, Age of Empires 2, complete with a real suit of amour and

coloured banners to set the mood. They also had a popular Flight Simulator 2000 display, where up to six eager aviators could try out the



unlucky competitors echoed disturbingly through the arena.

I joined in a downright nasty deathmatch on Unreal Tournament, which



minute in these realistic controller seats. There were steely glares and tense muscles all round as players strove to stay in control of their racing



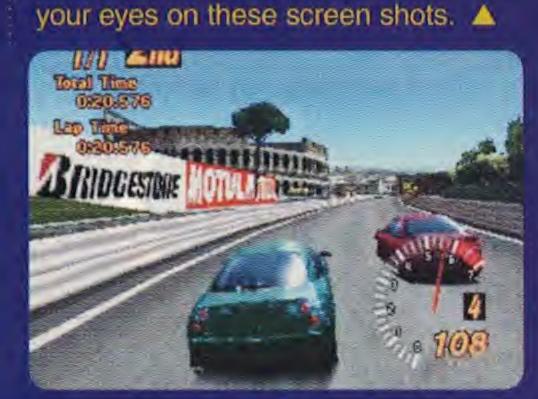
machine and finish victorious. After all; you don't want to lose with a crowd of expert gamers standing by watching your every move!

Eagerly awaitedGran Turismo 2

know we promised you we would be reviewing Gran Turismo 2 this issue but unfortunately it has been delayed yet again. The designers, Polyphony Digital, are still tweaking the gameplay to get it just right and a February release is now anticipated. The racing



freaks among you can look forward to a mouthwatering choice of more than 400 cars from both American and European auto makers, with 20 all new tracks on which to test them to the limit, including off-road courses. Feast



Pokémon Stadium

with a Game Boy link cable that will let you import your special Pokémon from Red, Blue and Yellow versions of the portable blockbuster RPG. Will Pikachu stand his ground? What is Mewtwo's attitude problem? All will be revealed, when Pokémon Stadium comes to a Nintendo near you.



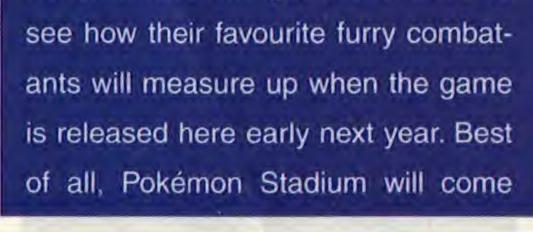












quite a while now and New Zealand

Pokémaniacs will get the chance to

Phis 3D Pokémon battle game

has been available in Japan for

Telecom Jet Stream

bigger.better.faster.more Jet internet



www.telecom.co.nz/jetstream

The future of multiplayer on-line gaming is here and it's lightning quick

elecom's new JetStream system will make slow internet access and tedious downloading a thing of the past. JetStream will provide super fast rates of information transfer, which will mean a speedy on-line gaming service. Say goodbye to slow jerky connections that ruin fast paced games like Quake 3 and Halflife.

So, how much faster is it? Well, the maximum speed for normal dial-up internet access is 56kbits/second, compared to around 2000kbits/ second with JetStream, which is approximately 35 times faster. The JetStream system also allows you to take phone calls while you are on-line and because it is a permanent connection there are no annoying waits for the server to be dialed up.

Speed isn't the only thing that JetStream offers. Telecom have also set up a JetStream Games sergive gamers access to an on-line community of like-minded people. We tested the

system at the Totally Wired Expo and it was extremely fast. Many people said it felt just like playing on a LAN connection.

All this speed is achieved by

December with free installation to the value of \$300. Customers must buy a set amount of megabyte usage as part of their monthly charge. After that has been used, they are charged per megabyte.

The on-line gaming revolution has only just begun and with Telecom's



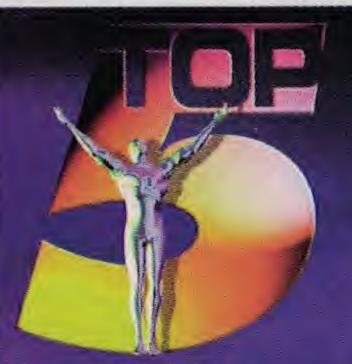
skewing the data, so that it flows much faster downstream (from server to user), than upstream, because people generally download many times more information than they send.

Telecom is offering a special deal before 25 sign up

new system the future looks full of exciting gaming opportunities.

To find out more about JetStream, take a look at www.telecom.co.nz/ jetstream or visit the specific games server at

www.jetstreamgames.co.nz



NEW ZEALAND'S MOST POPULAR GAMES

December '99

- Game Boy
- 1. Pokémon Yellow
- 2. Pokémon Pinball (colour)
- 3. Pokémon Blue
- 4. Pokémon Red
- 5. Super Mario Deluxe (colour)
- Nintendo 64
- 1. let Force Gemini
- 2. Super Smash Brothers
- 3. Pokémon Snap
- 4. Legend of Zelda 5. Knockout Kings 2000

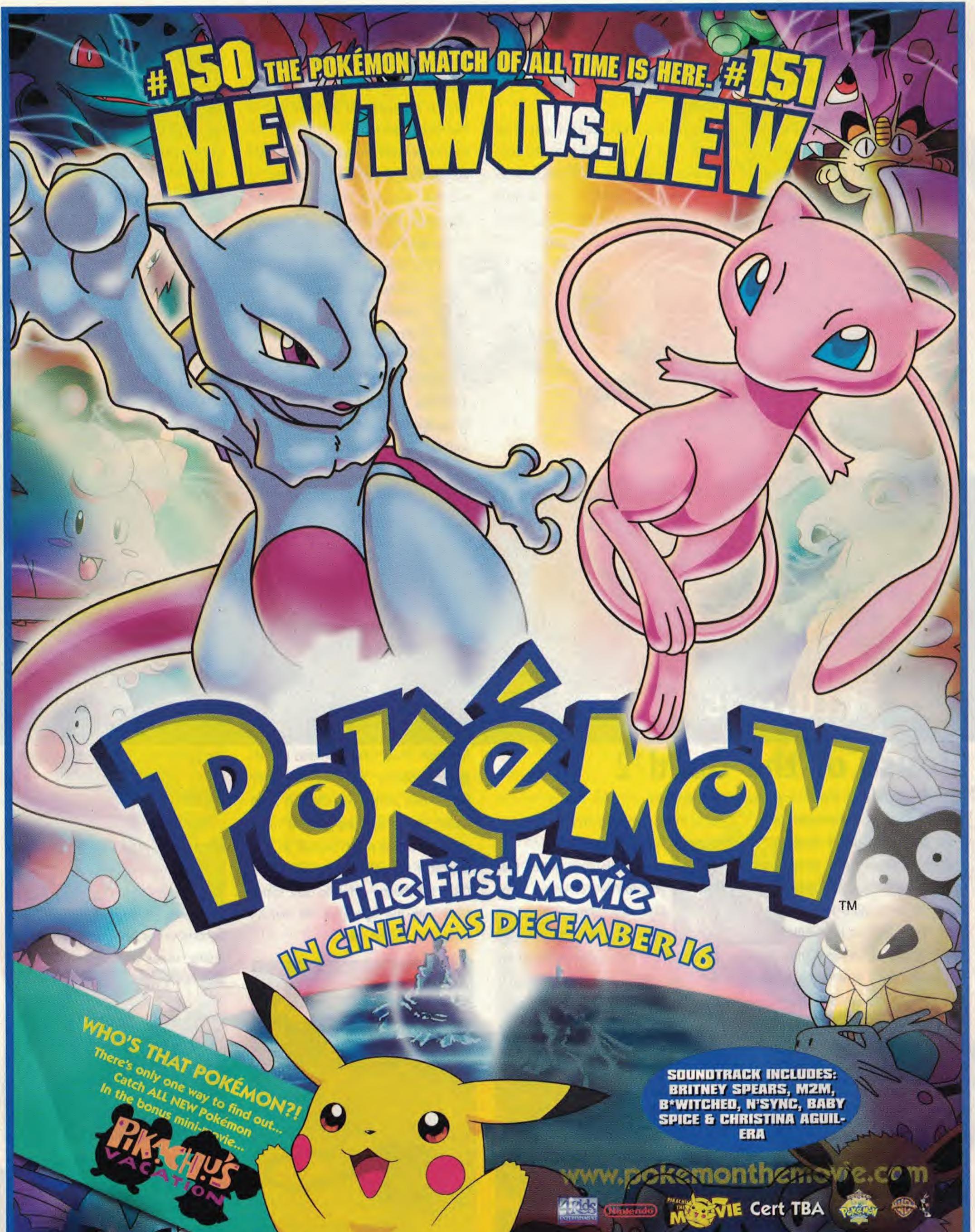
- PlayStation
- 1. Final Fantasy VIII
- 2. Dino Crisis
- 3. Tony Hawke's Skateboarding
- 4. Fifa 2000
- 5. WCW Mayhem
- PC CD
- 1. Age of Empires II
- 2. Delta Force II
- 3. Flight Sim 2000
- 4. Rogue Spear
- 5. Tiberian Sun



LOADING

- Phone lines at Warner Brothers headquarters in California were deluged with 70,000 calls per minute when it was announced the company would be giving away tickets to the premiere of Pokémon: The First Movie. The huge response from fans crashed Warner Bros. phone system. They were still receiving 40,000 calls per minute later that afternoon. That's Pokémon power for you!
- Microsoft has announced that member registration for its on-line gaming service, www.zone.com, has reached 10 million people. The site regularly attracts 500,000 people a day. Adam Waalkes, product unit manager for MSN Gaming Zone, says, "The Zone's remarkable growth is an indicator that on-line gaming is the future of internet entertainment."
- Age of Empires 2 has been topping sales charts in the US, United Kingdom and Germany, going into the vital holiday season. An incredible 1.4 million units of the game were shipped in its first month.
- Apparently train simulators may be the next big thing. Pony Canyon have quietly been filling this niche market for a few years on Mac and PC. They are most popular with men in their thirties and older. Pony Canyon's latest product includes actual scenery from a Paris train journey and has already sold 350,000 copies.
- Hasbro Interactive has announced that Centipede will be wiggling its way to the Dreamcast some time next year.
- Take Two interactive software has acquired the rights to publish games based on the Austin Powers movies. It expects to release a series of games for Game Boy colour, PC and PlayStation in 2000.
- Time magazine's new technology publication, Time Digital, has named Dreamcast 1999 "Machine of the Year". Reasons for the win were cited as revolutionary design and technology advances, graphics capabilities, sound quality and internet functionality.





STORY

y the time you're reading this, the Dreamcast will have been officially available for only a couple of days. For a while, it was looking as if we weren't going to see it this side of Christmas. But now lucky gamers may well find a small cream coloured surprise at the bottom of their Christmas stocking. The summer holidays are looking that much more exciting.

Dreamcast will be a pioneer of internet console gaming with its built-in modem. The internet access disc does not come with the machine because the Dreamcast site is still being prepared. But hopefully the system will be up and running early in the new year, allowing users to surf the net, check their email and play multiplier on-line games with hundreds of Dreamcast owners from all over the world.

The visual memory card is sort of an interactive ID card that holds all your games saves, as well as being able to play small sub-games. It also displays

and

cute animated characters

bonus

screens while you're playing the main game. It's a great little gimmick that adds value and fun to all Dreamcast software. They'll probably become the fashion accessory to be seen with in the next millennium.

Expect a wide range of Dreamcast accessories to appear in the next 12 months, including a keyboard and word processing software, as well as a

zip drive to store data downloaded from the internet.

Another advantage of the Dreamcast is that it is powered by a Windows operating system, which means PC titles can be easily transferred to the machine, with only a few weeks work by designers. Expect a flood of titles to start appearing soon.

Soul Calibur

eyes nearly [popped out of my head when I first saw Soul Calibur. I've played the arcade ver-



sion a fair bit and believe it or not the Dreamcast conversion is superior.

The visuals are silky smooth, running

at a blistering 60 frames per second. Each character is extraordinarily detailed, right down to the changing expressions on their faces, depending on how well the fight is going. There are dozens of classy little touches included, such as rats scuttling around the

The Future is Here: Dreamcast...

House of the Dead 2

n this arcade port, the zombie minions attack so relentlessly that if

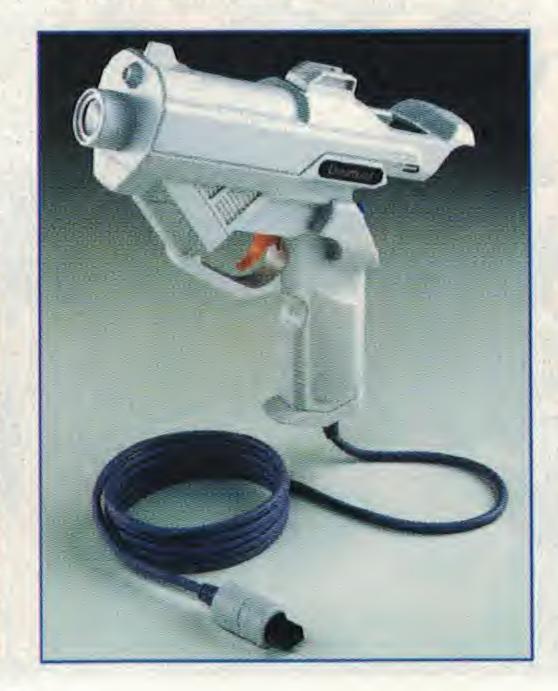
your character didn't keep moving he would be hip-deep in body parts. Yes, the gore factor is very high. Horribly ugly zombies attack with

chain saws, axes and their bare hands. Zombies take damage wherever you shoot them, with gory holes appearing in their rotting flesh and green blood splattering the walls. Head shots are the fastest way to drop them, often resulting in a graph-

ic beheading

It is of vital importance that you don't kill or let the zombies kill any innocent people, because not only will you

have to hear their pitiful screams for mercy but you will be forced to take a longer route to the end of the level. The sheer number of ways the zombies terrorise the population is a treat to watch. They chase terrified people around before chewing on their brains, they push small children down wells, they drive cars off the road, they throw half-eaten bodies at you from roof tops. Overall, House of the Dead 2 is heaps of fun to play, especially with the light gun set, but its lifespan is limited.



Power Stone

his combat game feathe first truly interactive 3D environments



ever seen on a home console. Each fighting arena is packed with chairs, tables, vases and other objects that



can be thrown or kicked towards your opponent. Each fighter can interact with the environment in different ways.











floor, the multiple victory sequences and the crunching sound effects that made me flinch with every hit.

Using the analog controller to

circle your opponent is beautifully simple and really adds depth to the combat system. Fighters are easy to control but difficult to master, with a huge array of devastating moves for each character. Once you get used to their style, it is possible to perform jaw-dropping combos and stunning power moves.

The backgrounds feature the most stellar graphics: golden sunsets over the ocean with fishing junks bobbing realistically in the foreground and offworld voids with spiraling galaxies and cosmic worm holes. They're so good it's almost distracting. Without a shadow of a doubt, Soul Calibur is the best fighting game to ever grace a home console and proves the Dreamcast is a force to be reckoned with.

Get Bass

t mightn't seem like the most exciting sport to bring to the Dreamcast but with the addition of the wind and vibrate controller it's more fun

than you think. You really have to get into the mind of your prey if you hope to land the big one. Does that big ole grand daddy bass like shiny lures or the rotating spinner bait? Will he be waiting in the deep water or be skulking near the edge of the wharf? The fish don't always bite but when they do it can be

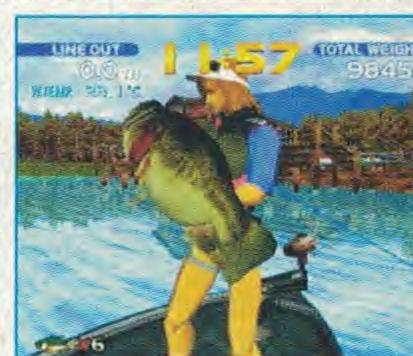
genuinely exciting, especially if you're lucky enough to switch to the lure cam

as the fish swallows it.

The motion of the fish and their artificial intelligence is extremely realistic (although fish have never been that

smart!). There is beautiful attention to detail throughout the game, such as the turtles and crabs going about their business on the seased

to slowly drag the lure past a fish, enticing it with small jerks of the pole. It's a waiting and experimentation game.









For example, the smaller, more agile characters can climb the walls and leap from the rafters like monkeys, while the larger characters rip the scenery apart with their brute strength and lay waste to their opponent with lamp posts and supporting beams.

The power stones appear every few seconds and if you collect all three colours, your fighter transforms into its super

human incarnation which lets you use magical blast waves, laser swords, spinning buzzsaw hands. Total power! You opponent will be looking for somewhere to hide.

The game also has a sense of humour. I picked up a large vase and was able to chuck it on my opponent's head, just like you see in cartoons. So, while he was staggering around blindly trying to get it off, I was able to do whatever I wanted to him. Great fun! Power Stone is a classic.

Sonic Adventures

blue hedgehog spends more time in the air than he does on the ground in this amazingly detailed, lightning fast 3D platformer.

Graphically Sonic

Adventures

unprecedented. There is so much attention to detail and hundreds of amazing effects. Every new level is a joy to explore, teaming with unex-





ple, an angry killer whale that chases Sonic along a wharf, smashing it to splinters behind him. Also one level takes place inside a twister, which sees Sonic flying and

pected thrills. For exam-

falling between huge chunks of scenery that have been ripped from the ground by the tornado. It has to be seen to be believed. Each action level is loaded with loop-de-loops and crazy rollercoaster style tracks for Sonic to reach warp speed on.

The 3D camera view can be a little distracting when it gets stuck behind objects and for the first few games you'll be wondering why you keep flying off the course and dying in the water, but even with those two minor flaws Sonic Adventures is still a ground-breaking title.



UPIRUSTE TOTOM

This is Soccer

Footy fanatics look no further

If you had a fiver for every soccer game released on the PlayStation, you could nearly buy yourself a striker from Inter Milan. The game has managed to build a loyal following here and with the success of the Under 17 World Cup, the timing of this release couldn't be better.

This is Soccer tries to cap-

ture the true heart of the game. The lengthy intro shows rowdy fans chanting and drifting through the streets on the way to a match.

This is Soccer is the most hyped footy game ever and after taking a peep at the gameplay, I can see why. The ingame graphics are right up there as some of the best seen yet. The all-important interface is very easy on



Platform:
PlayStation
Style:
Sports/Soccer
Stats:
1-2 Players
Distributor:

Sony Computer

Entertainment

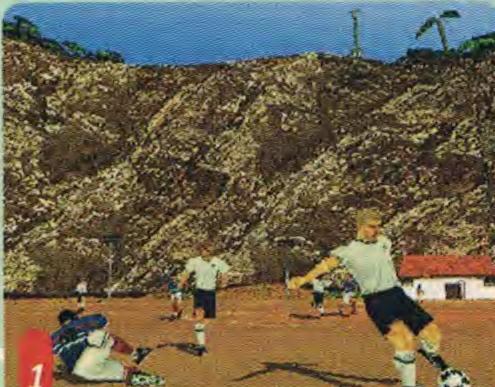
the eye and does a fine job of guiding you through the stack of options.

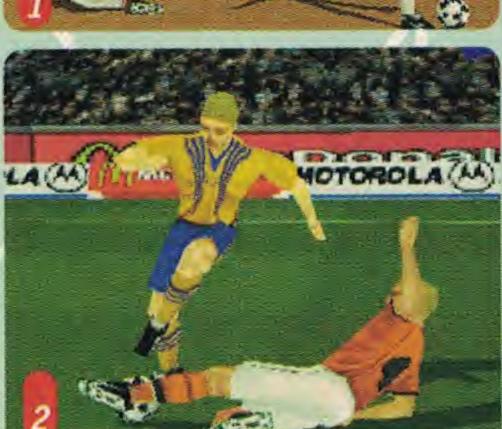
The control is quite complex at first, with each button having more than one function depending on if you tap it or hold it. For example, you might quickly tap the X button to make a short pass to a nearby team-mate and then hold it down for the longer ball

through to the forwards. So you can see this is a game that will require some practice.

Sony is not known for creating sports games, especially not in the fiercely competitive world of soccer simulations but it has done a very nice job here. It's just a shame it will probably be eclipsed by the recently released FIFA 2000. Nonetheless, This is

Soccer will keep any footy fan happy for seasons to come.







2000

1 Midfield action
2 An aggressive tackle
3 A brave header
4 Stand up straight
boys!
5 The stadium at capacity
6 The striker makes his move.







Supercross

Down and dirty off-road action

lectronic Arts continues its foray into the world of extreme sports with this fast action, rough riding simulation of the American Motorcycle Association's Supercross Series. All the real tracks have been faithfully recreated for you with the help of actual track blueprints. You'll be flying off huge table tops and bending your knees for the triple jump landings, just as surely as if you were competing for real.

The game has several play options, including quick race, full season, head to head and the freestyle jump-off contest. There are plenty of acrobatic freestyle moves to master, including heel clickers, pancake whips and the aptly named Superman, all of which can be viewed instantly from a remote stunt cam picture box.

Supercross 2000 features a sophisticated control system which allows

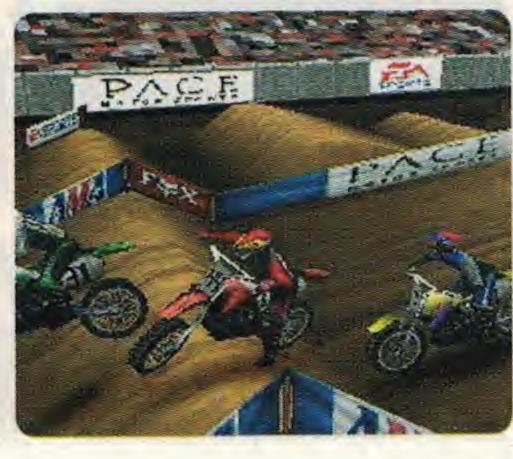


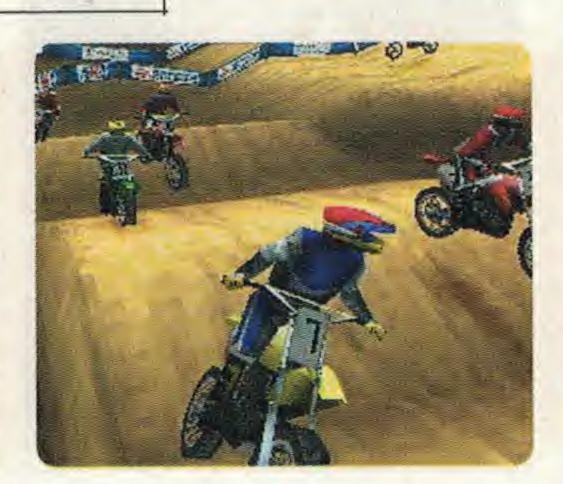
Platform:
PlayStation
Style:
Motorcross sim
Stats:
1-2 Players
Distributor:
Electronic Arts

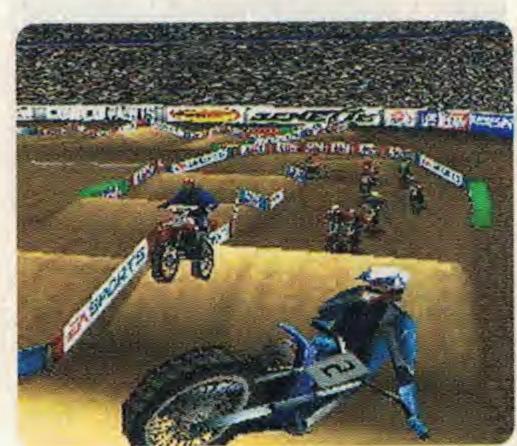
players to use their riders' body weight to change how the bike reacts in the air or while taking tight turns. Players can slide their weight forward or back and side to side depending on what obstacle they face. Another good feature of the game is how the track changes during the course of a race. Ruts and grooves slowly begin to appear on well-used sections of the course and smart riders will adjust their line to get a better grip.

To keep you pumped, there is a nice loud punk soundtrack featuring cuts from The Living End and MxPx. Supercross 2000 will help you live your dreams of being a top international rider, without the risk of spoiling your nice new clothes and getting mud in your eye.











40 Winks

These kids aren't afraid of things that go bump in the night

uff and Tumble, the pint-sized heroes of 40 Winks, have been called upon to make nap time safe for all the kids of the world. You see, the dastardly Professor Madcap has kidnapped the Winks, a breed of cute critters responsible for making sweet dreams at bed time. Without the them, the Hoodwinks will

go unchecked, bringing horrible night- younger players. But I'm sure anyone mares to all the children of the world. Who plays it will be taken in by its The adventure begins in Ruff and Tumble's bedroom but soon leads to a



Platform: PlayStation Style: 3D Adventure Stats: 1-2 Players simultaneous Distributor:

GT interactive

My favourite mini-game is challenge when you Threadbear's champion racing witch to a dual. She rides her broomstick and you ride a rocket; the first to finish gets to keep all the power-ups you have collected during the race. 40 Winks is a very cute game, with lovable characters and plenty of adventure, especially for

many charms. A



magical dream world inhabited by cackling witches on flying broomsticks, Frankenstein monsters and ghouls and ghosts of every description.

The brother and sister team can explore various spooky worlds simultaneously; Ruff leading the way with his candle and Tumble skipping merrily along behind with her favourite teddy bear. Both of the kids can whack pesky ghosts with their hands and feet, as well as being able to butt bounce on their heads.

Occasionally you will find a jackin-the-box, which when opened transforms the kids into a superhero personality for a short time. You are transformed into either a chunky muscled cave kid, who can smash through certain doors and stomp large enemies or an agile staff-wielding ninja.

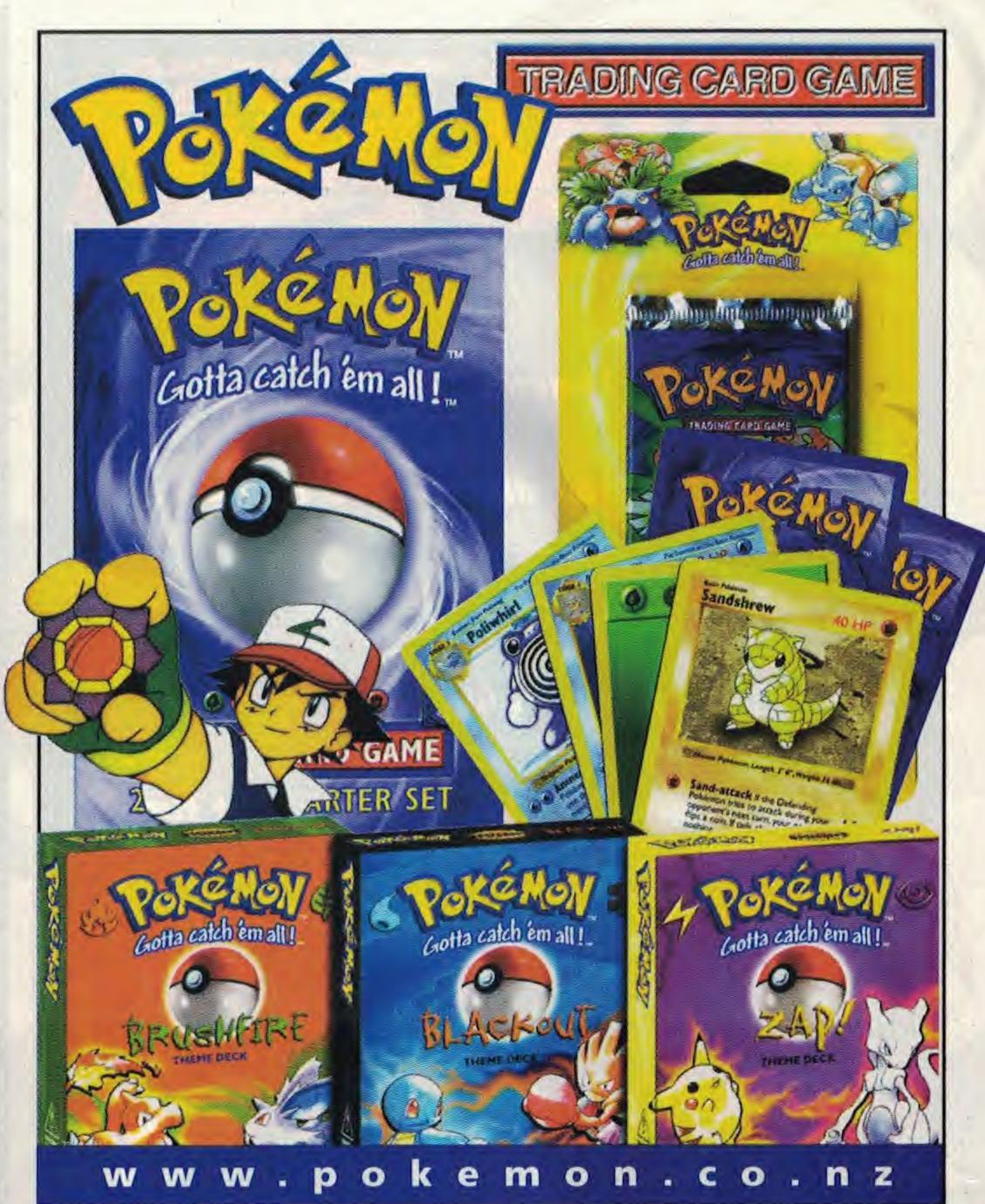
40 Winks is a fun title with lots of variety. There are many secret areas to discover and sub-games to play.







1 Tumble: skeleton slayer. @2 Ruff's ninja costume comes in handy @3 Ruff bravely leads the way with his candle







PlayStation..



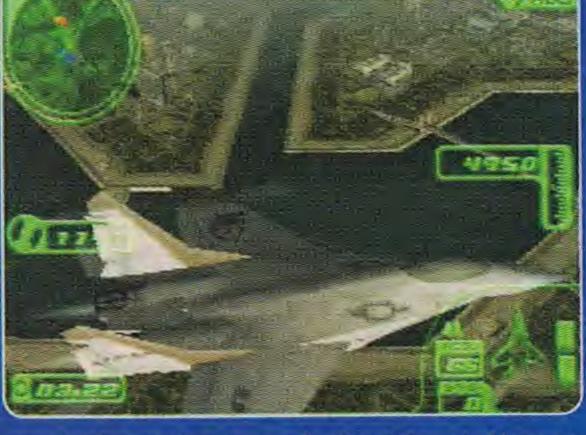
Ace Combat 3

Fly high or crash and burn?



Ace Combat 3 Platform: PlayStation Style: 3D shooter Stats: 1 Player **Distributor: Sony**

he first two Ace Combat games were relative successes on the PlayStation, featuring slick arcade-style shooting action with branching levels that rewarded skillful players with more difficult challenges. Now Ace Combat 3 is nearly here and it looks to be an equally good



from those perfectionists at Namco. sequel, boasting lush light soured

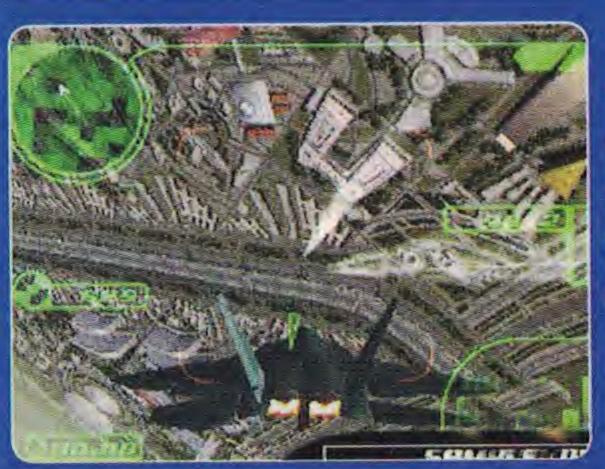
The same beautiful cutscenes appear between sorties throughout the game.



Before each mission you get to kit out your plane with various missiles and machine gun rounds. Then it's to the sky where you must track down boogies with your radar and send heat seekers up their tailpipe. You can use the right analog controller to rotate the exterior view, which is helpful for spotting enemies on your six. This view is graphically very impressive however, if you accidentally activate it while you're in the middle of a dogfight, it can be quite annoying.

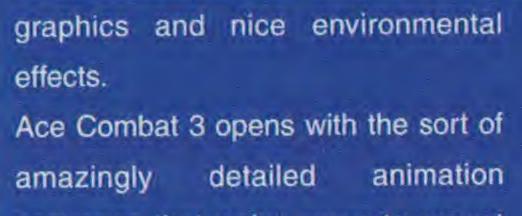


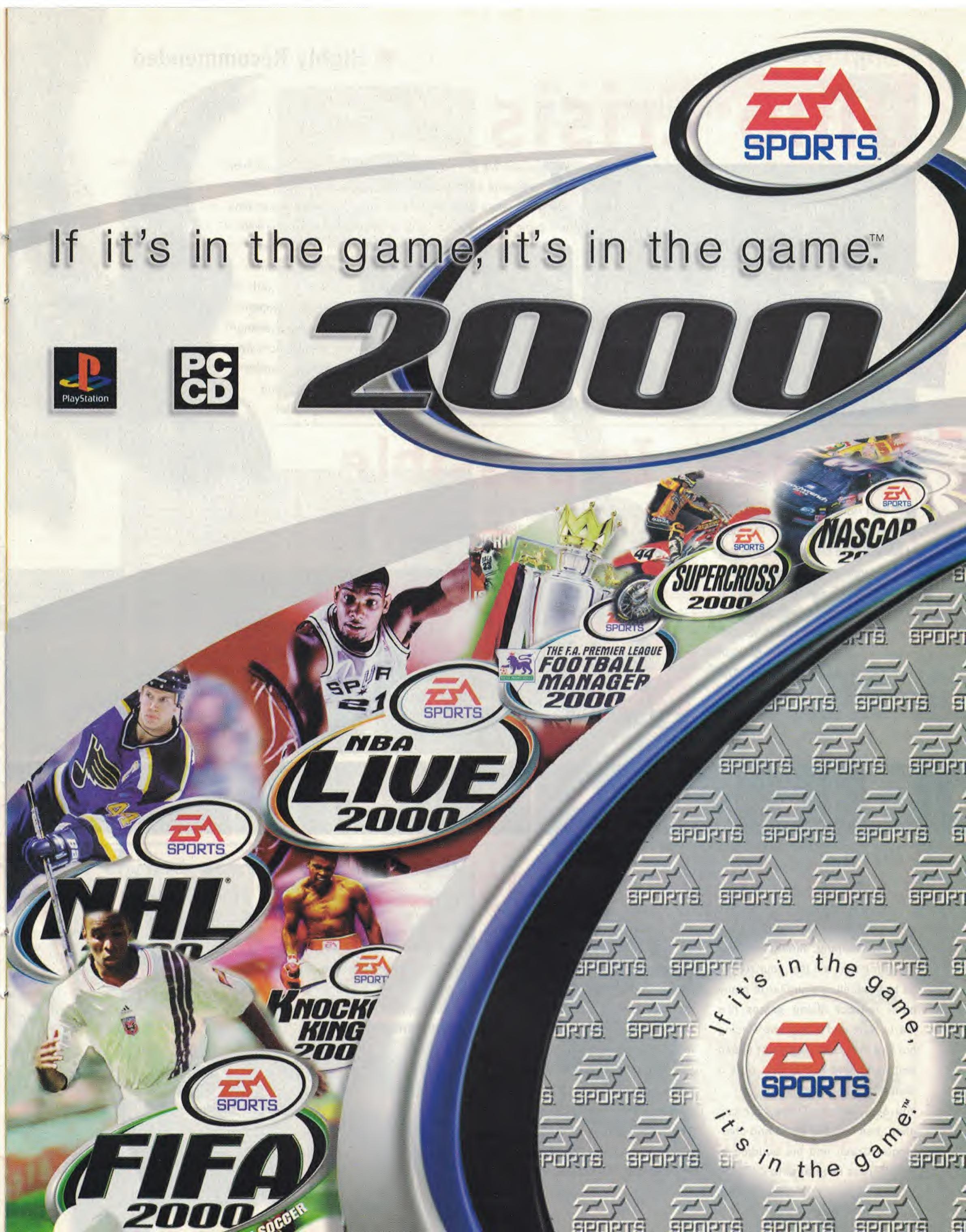
The main change since Ace Combat 2 is the revamped control system, which strangely has more simulator-like, become resembling the expert default controls on Ace 2. It's not a major problem, it's just that it seems a little finicky for an arcade shooter. We've only seen an early demo of Ace Combat 3 but it surely does



detailed amazingly sequence that we've come to expect

impress both graphically and sonically. We'll just have to wait and see if the final version improves the lacklustre combat and makes the necessary changes to the control system.





Highly Recommended

Dino Crisis



been sent to investigate strange goings on at an isolated island laboratory. What follows is a tense, claustrophobic adventure game with merciless dinosaurs waiting to tear Regina limb

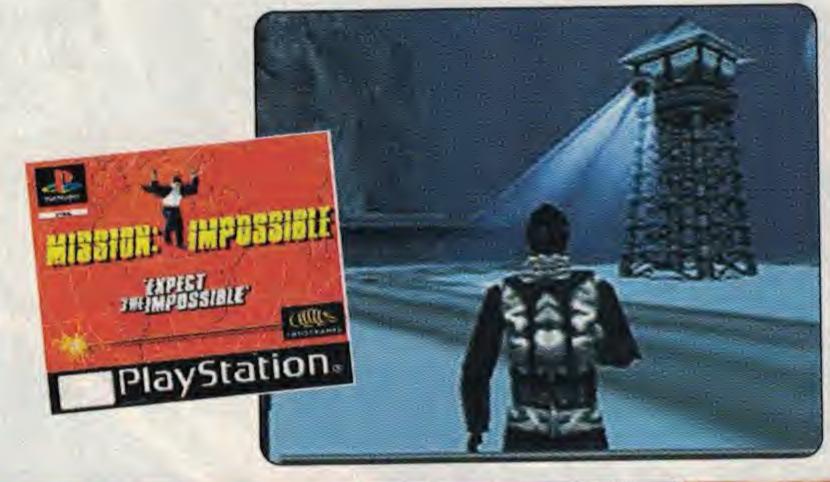


from limb. You
must negotiate
puzzles and
progress through
the levels, avoiding
the prehistoric killing
machines where
you can and
serving up hot

Mission: Impossible

as an international spy. The tools of his trade are his wits, courage and and the large variety of high technology gadgets he uses to outsmart his enemies. Ethan must infiltrate various high security locations such as CIA headquarters and the Russian Embassy to learn the truth. The gameplay is split between stealthy third person puzzle/exploration missions and intense first person

shootouts. If high tech warfare and espionage are your thing, then Mission: Impossible is for you.





















A lunatic Bandicoot behind

the wheel? Run for your life!





Crash Team Racing

crash Team Racing is a frantic, slipping, sliding cart racing game that will test your reflexes to the limit. It's similar to many other mascot racing games like Mario Kart and Choccobo Racing but has that extra degree of speed and nail-biting action that puts it ahead of most competitors.

You see, Nitrous Oxide, a nasty alien, has invaded earth and challenged Crash and his buddies to race across several cute cartoon-

style tracks. If Nitrous Oxide wins he will take over Earth, so the stakes are high.

Crash Team Racing has a fantastic four player option that will
entertain you and your friends for
hours. You'll curse when they take
you out with a missile and gloat
when you pip them at the finish
line with a well-timed turbo boost.
The track designs throughout the
game are excellent, each featuring different obstacles and unique

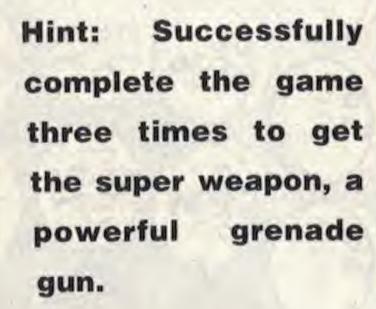
locations.

Crash Team Racing is a very rewarding arcade racer, with large helpings of humour and a nice control system. It should be high on your Christmas list. ▲



Jenstation)

lead to those who mess with you. It's survival horror action that will have your gripping your PlayStation controller in white knuckled fear. A















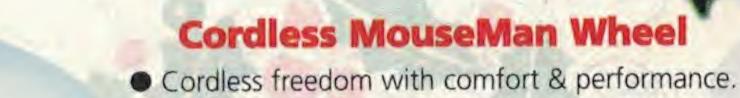












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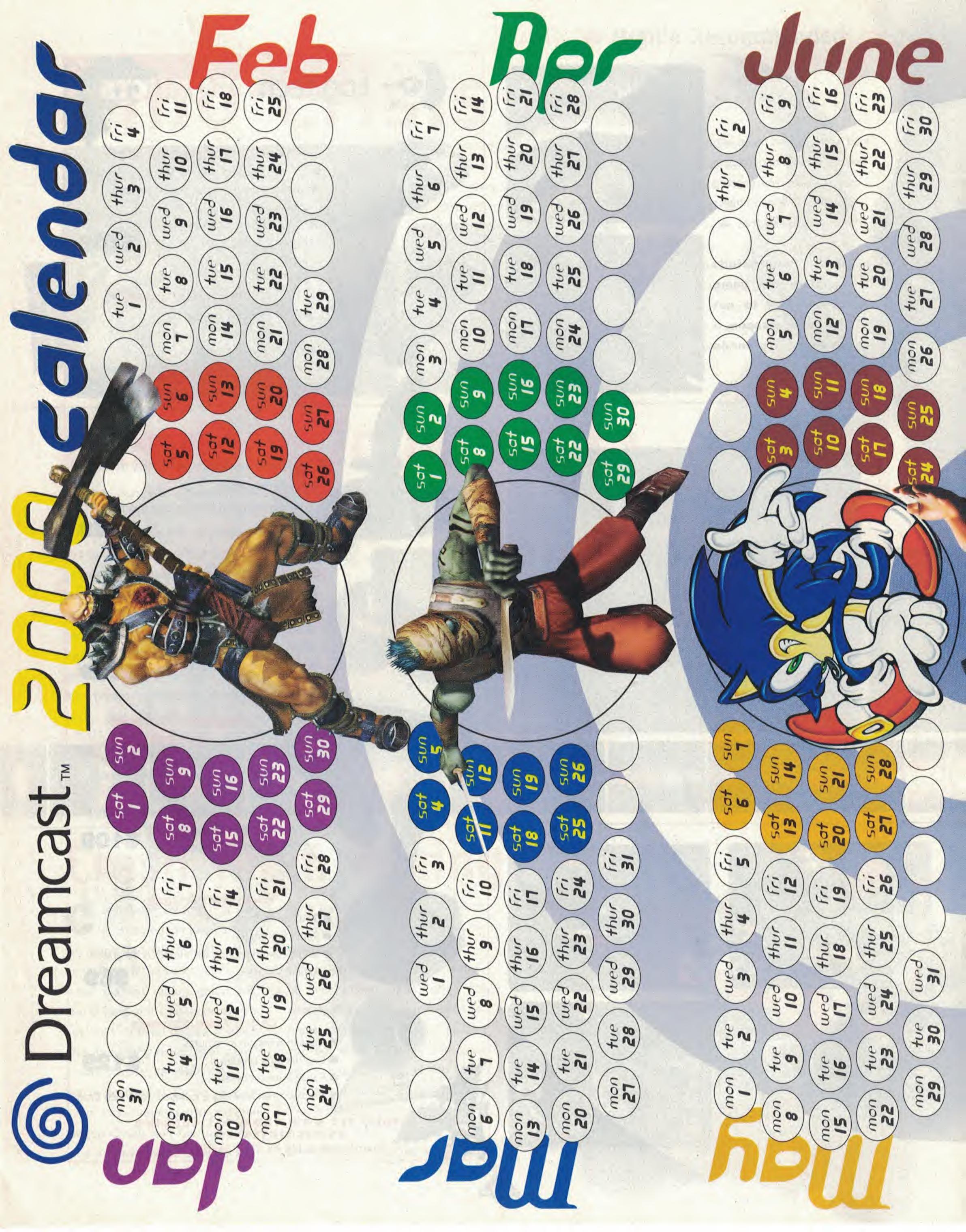
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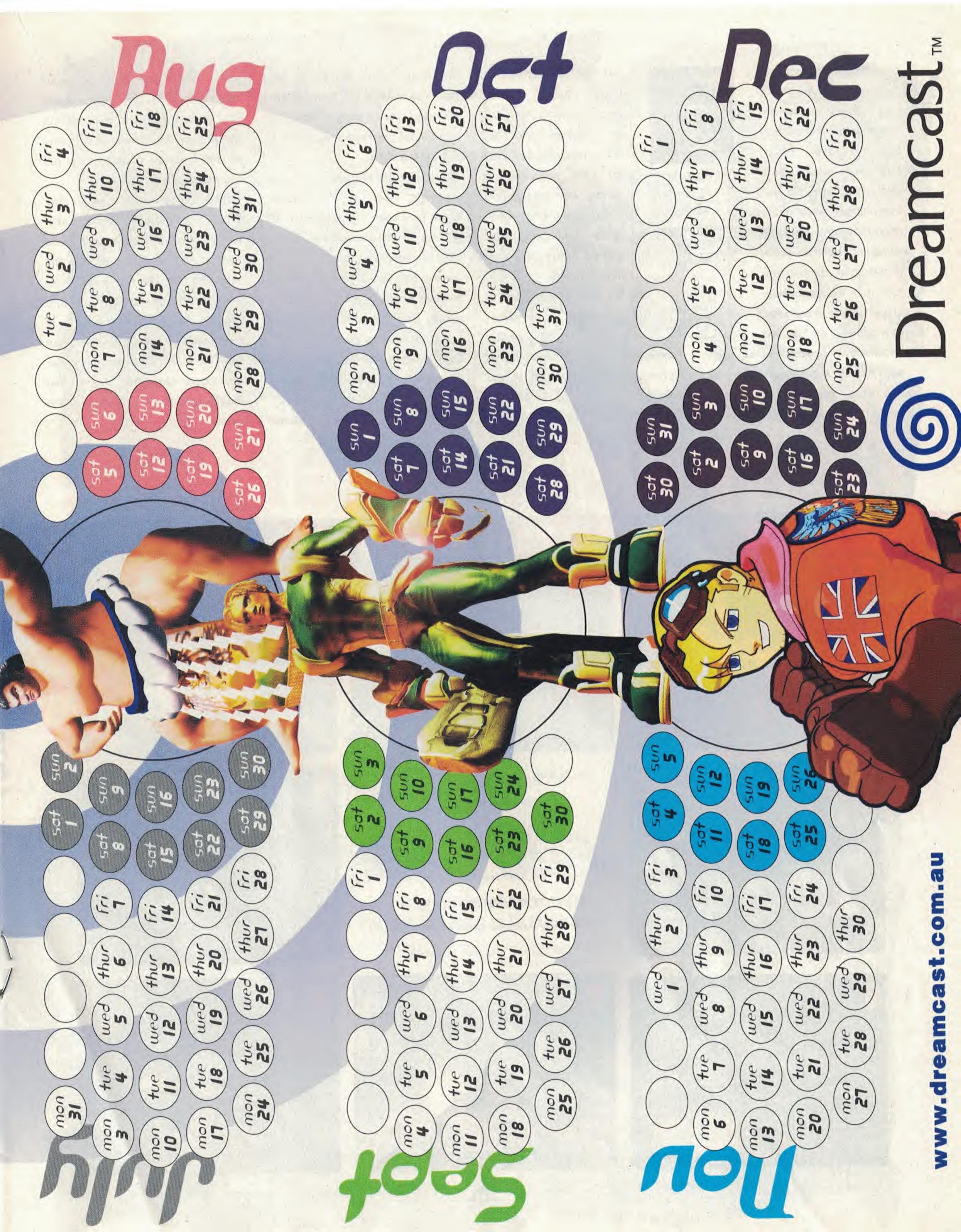
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- E-mail them anywhere.
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Compounder?

et's get this straight right from the beginning: Unreal Tournament is the greatest third pershooter ever. son Everything about it is pure class, from the texture mapped faces, to the mind-blowingly powerful weapons, to the beautifully designed combat arenas. It is the best multiplayer blaster of the year. In a genre which has fast

become overcrowded with sub-standard clones, it is refreshing to play one which gets all the elements right. The developers have figured



Platform: PC CD Style: 3D Shooter Stats: Multiplayer LAN internet and games Distributor: GT Interactive

out that people want to their friends blast because computer players aren't too smart. So, UT is primarily designed for LAN and internet games, with well thoughtout environments, which really make multiplayer games tense cat-andmouse affairs.

UT includes a number of impressive new additions. The low gravity

zones add a new dimension with slow motion mid-air combat as you leap from building top to building strafing all the top, way.

Environments are altered by your presence. After a fire fight the area really looks like a combat zone, with bullet holes and blackened scorches scaring the walls.

There are a pile of mega-destructive weapons, such as The Ripper, which fires spinning blades that will remove an opponents head cleanly with an accurate shot. The chain laser is also very impressive, linking multiple enemies with a locked-on energy field that continues to damage them even as you turn and run. Each weapon also has a secondary fire, which is usually some sort of explosive that you lob in overarm.

The designers have even included

various visual gestures to taunt your opponents. You can dance, wave and even perform a hilarious hip thrust over the dismembered body of your foe - the perfect way to rub his nose in it.

Unreal Tournament is a joy to play. There's nothing quite like the satisfaction of hunting down your friend and blowing his brains all over the wall. With the continuing advancement in computer speeds and graphic handling abilities, it is inevitable that there will soon be an even more epic third person shooter developed. Until that day Unreal Tournament is the champion of the genre. 🔺

The deadliest game of them all









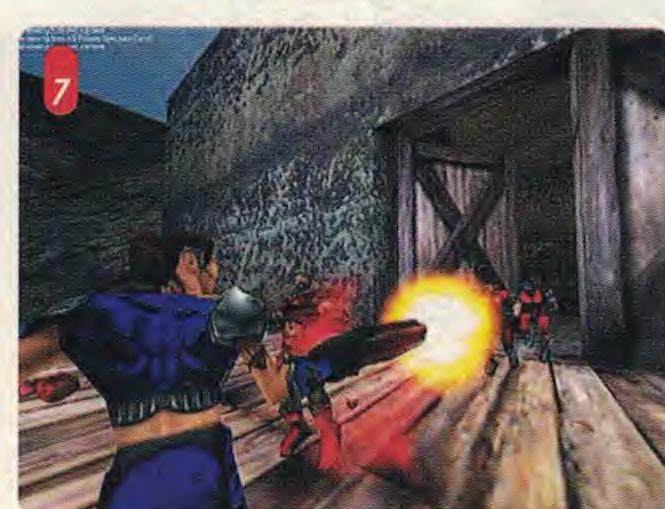


- 1 Looking down the barrel of destruction
 - 2 A Mexican stand-off
 - 3 The chain laser strikes again
 - On the run with a big gun
 - Don't lose your head!
 - Too close for comfort
- 7 Heavy resistance at the main entrance
 - 8 You run, I'll cover: teamwork.













Delta Force

s a member of the United States Army's secret Elite Special Operations Unit, Delta Force, it is your sworn duty to battle the forces of international terrorism. At a moment's notice you may be whisked away to the latest international hot spot to deal with a nuclear threat or to rescue hostages.

Delta Force 2 is no mindless blaster - it has been designed to be as realistic as possible. As in reality, a single bullet will end your life, so it is of vital importance to properly survey your objective before making your move. Your small team of commandos is always outnumbered, so surprise is your best weapon. The trusty sniper rifle allows you to lie low in the long grass and pick off terrorists from up to a kilometre away. However, the enemy is very smart and once you have opened fire it won't take long before troops are

sent out to deal with you. The environments are truly huge, with rolling hills to help creep up on unsuspecting soldiers and detailed enemy compounds which you must decide how best to attack. I liked the levels where you parachute into hostile territory, with complete control over where you land, as well as the ability to take out troops from the air with your sniper rifle. Another excellent feature

is the ability to capture machine gun emplacements and grenade launchers from the enemy and cause large scale havoc.

Delta Force 2 is a completely absorbing combat simulator. You'll have to use extreme caution and sly strategy to complete each of the 45



PC CD Style: Stats:

Platform:

3D combat simulation

Up to 50 players on-line Distributor: Electronic Arts

missions. It's a thinking person's shooter for those with nerves of steel

least expect it

and the temperament of a stalking predator.

hide in the shadows, move

with the breeze and attack when

I Low visibility adds to the tension on this mission @2 You have to adjust for wind gusts from this range @3 Preparing to secure the primary objective .4 Team Delta Force ready for action, sir! 05 It's incredible how far you can crawl into enemy territory without being spotted.



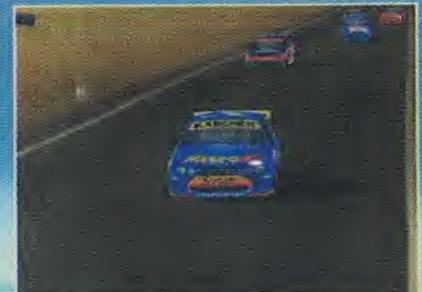








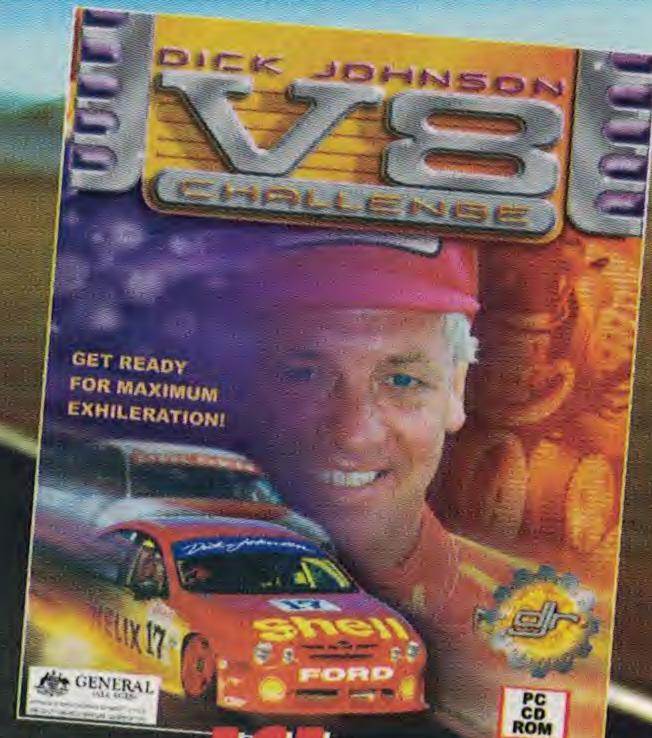
CHALLENGE







- Stunning 3D graphic.
- Choose from over 24 cars.
- 4 of Australia's best tracks-Oran Park, Sandown, Willow Bank and the famous Bathurst Track.
- Multiple camera angles.
- Several different race modes
- Force feedback steering wheel compatible.



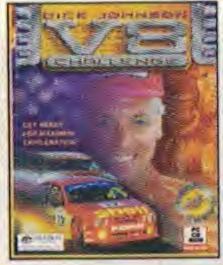


Li ellegezze

Dick Johnson's V8 Challenge

Look out Bathurst, here I come...

PROFILE



Platform:
PC CD
Stats:
1 Player or
multiplayer LAN

Style:
Racing Sim
Distributor:
Gamewhiz

ustralia's legendary V8 touring car champion Dick Johnson has finally put his name to a racing game. It has been developed by Australian company Torus, which was responsible for various Game Boy titles in the past until it made the move to PC development.

Being Australian made, the game features four of their best touring car tracks – Sandown, Oran Park, Willow Bank and, of course, the great Bathurst circuit. Each track appears in full detail, from the sweeping turns of Mount Panorama to the fast Willow Bank course.

Dick Johnson's V8 Challenge will include a large number of racing teams in their correct colours, with all their current drivers. But as always, it

is the battle between Ford and Holden that captivates the racing season; each desperate to prove their superiority. You can choose from more than 24 grunty V8 beasts, each with precise racing dynamics that help the cars respond realistically. You're playing with an awful lot of power here, so it pays to not to adopt the lead foot approach.

The in-game graphics have a high number of polygons, producing smooth, fast racing, with multiple camera angles adding to the feeling of being trackside. Dick Johnson's Challenge is also compatible with force feedback steering wheels, for that extra degree of realism. For the real Down Under racing experience, look no further.

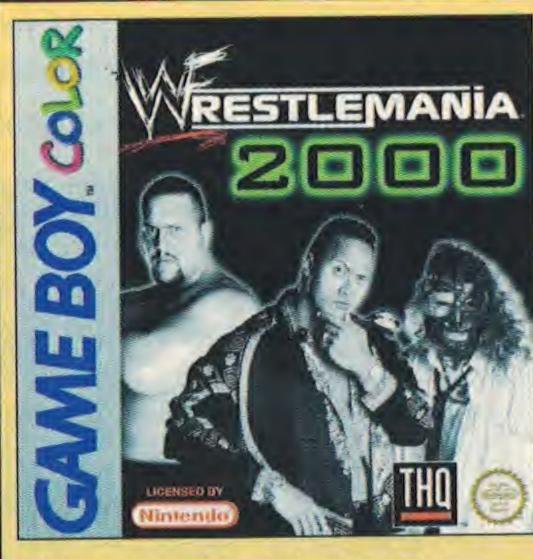




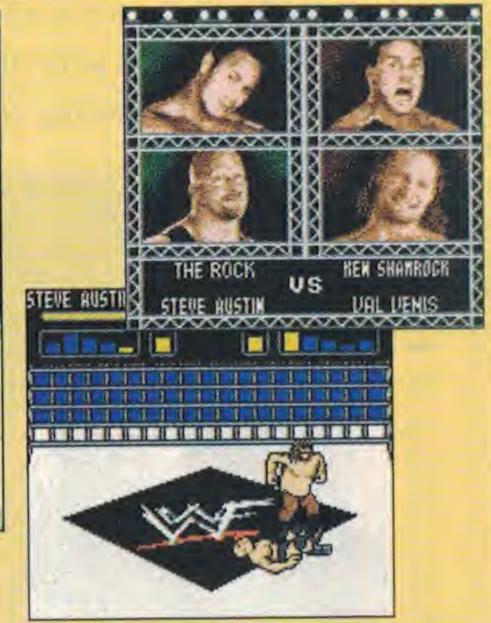




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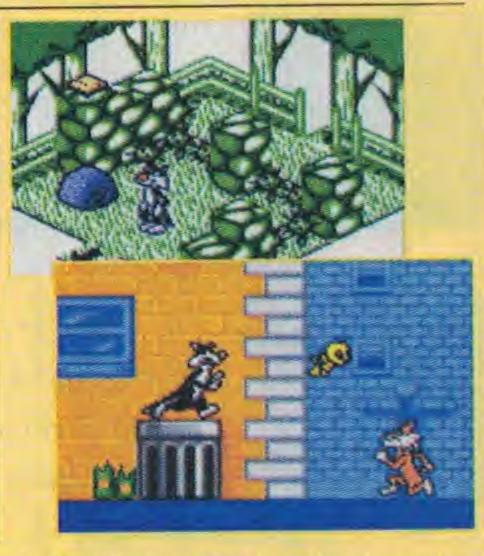


Save games with a password option.



Can Tweety stay out of trouble even 5 mimutes? - Not when Sylvester is on the prowl!

 Discover Granny's neighbourhood.



 Avoid hundreds of obstacles;
 bulldogs teeth, electric wires and especially Granny's Broom.

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Age of Empires

Age of Empires is such an absorbing gaming experience that we had to give you another look at it. Gamers all over the world have been spending long hours with this most kingly of strategy games, building vast empires to crush their neighbours.

The key to your empire's continued prosperity is how well you manage your resources. Gold, stone, wood and food are all precious commodities that must be carefully harvested and protected if you hope to improve your technology and advance through the ages. Once everything is running like clockwork, you can concentrate on building up your armies to expand your righteous kingdom.



If you haven't sampled Age 2's pleasures yet, then what are you waiting for? A divine invitation? Go forth and multiply my son...



Bombard Cannon: A great siege weapon that makes short work of fortifications and castles. It is relatively quick to move compared with other siege weapons.



Hand Cannoneer: The first gunpowder unit. Slow to fire but has a powerful range.



Mangonell: A small catapult-type weapon that is effective against troop concentrations and weaker buildings.



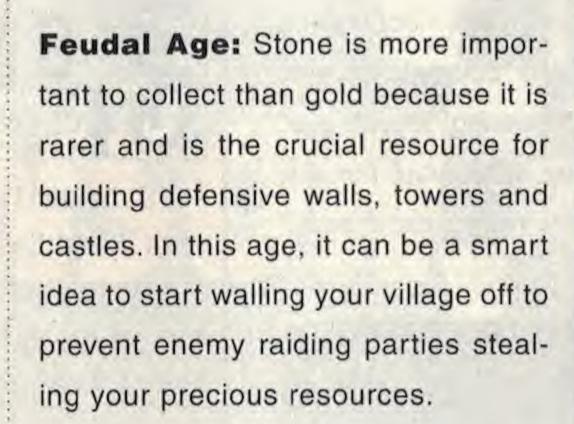
Paladin: An elite religious warrior who is very difficult to convert using Monks.



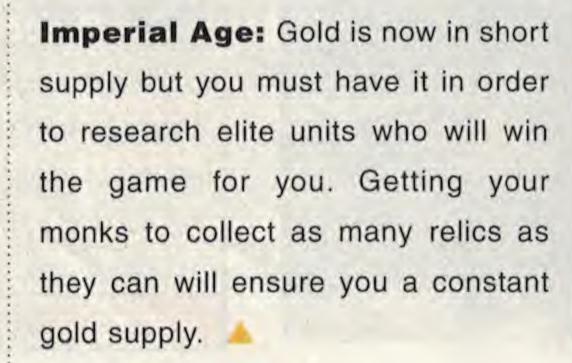
Throwing Axemen: They have only a short range but are devastatingly powerful against standard infantry.

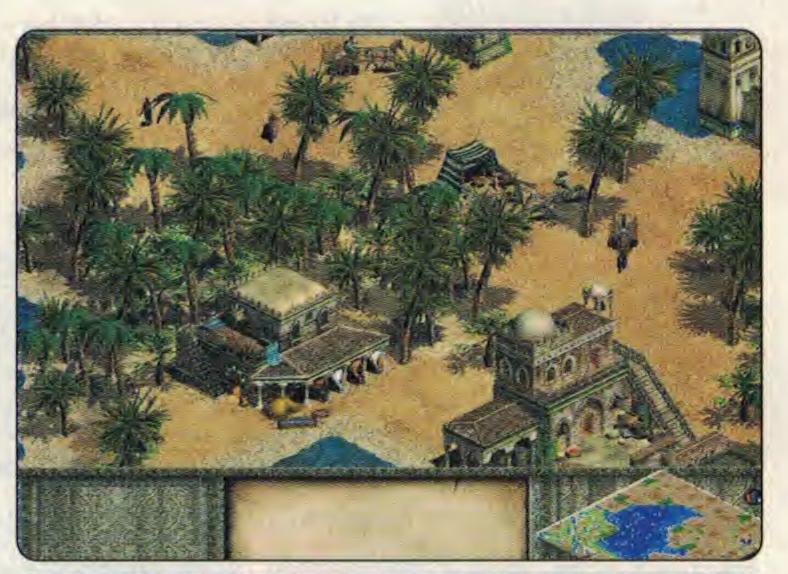


Dark Age: Build up your population. Don't be tempted to start building a militia in the Dark Ages. They are weak and will be easily taken out by your enemy's town centre. Your enemy will then proceed to the Feudal Age before you and wipe you out with more advanced weapons.



Castle Age: You must be building a strong army by now, so wood and gold are the two most important things. Defend your city walls with archers and other ranged units. It may also be wise to start producing siege weapons and research tougher infantry units.



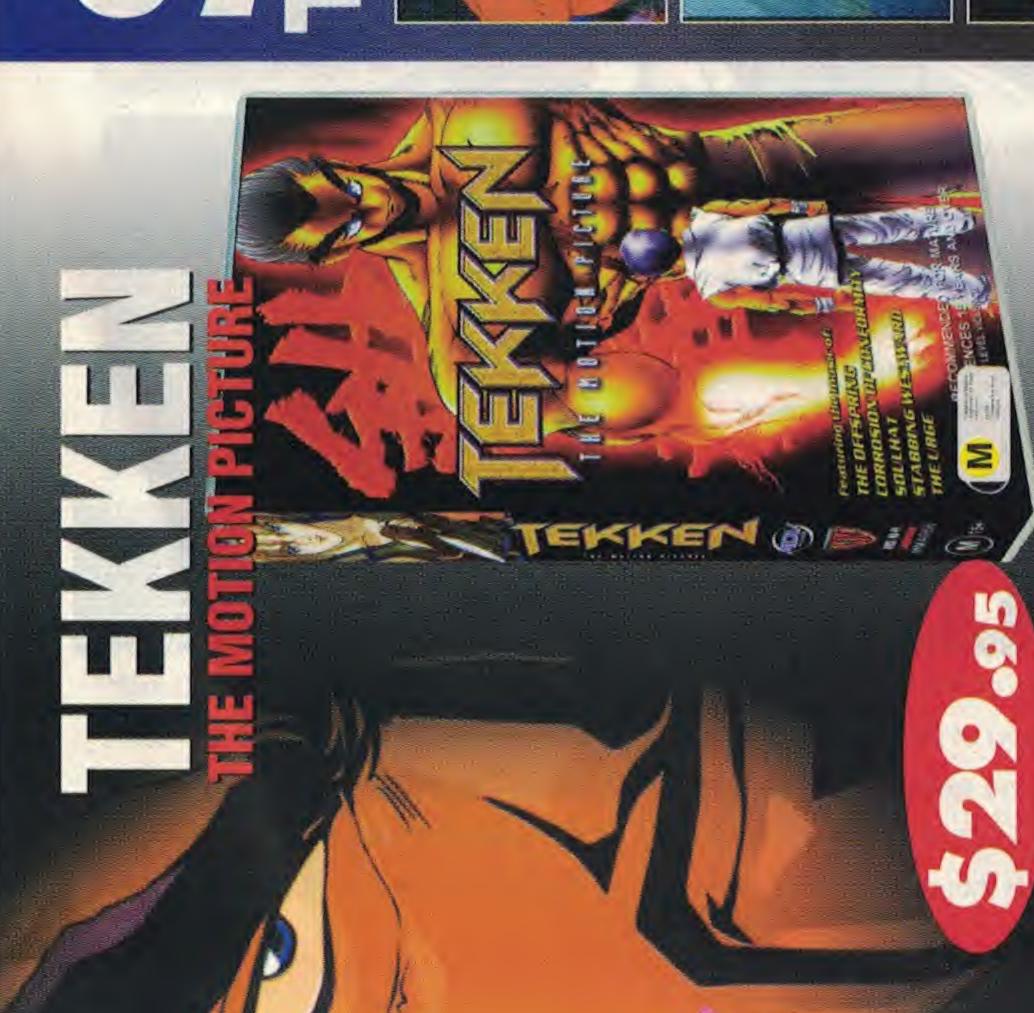










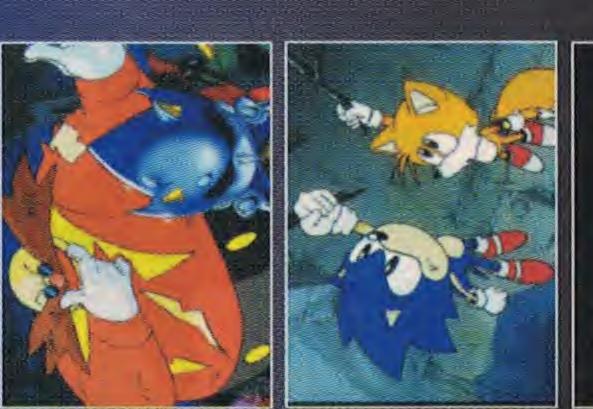




spectacular series that revolutionised how fighting games are Get ready for the ultimate animated adventure! Tekken, the some rendering power of state-of-the-art computers merges with the stunning graphic style and dynamics of anime in an adventure that will rip you right out of your living room and hurl you incredible martial arts played, is now an incredible animated motion picture. The awe-Release 10 December into the blood-drenched arena of the most battle ever created!

Buy Tekken and go into the draw win a PlayStation console Tekken 2 & 3 games (4 consoles to win!)















Land of the Sky because he's been booted from the Land of Darkness. An incredibly evil Metal Robotnik drove him out and if it's not stopped, fast it will blow Planet Freedom to smithereens. He needs help Dr Robotnik claims he's hanging around the beautiful

Can Sonic trust his worst enemy? Should he rush headlong into an obvious trap and possibly save the universe?

Release 10 December

Dreamcast console Buy Sonic and go the draw to game consoles to



to be psychic to know that Badge will be the battle of his Brock falls head over heels for the girl of his dreams but the love of his life lures him Team Rocket schemes to steal the entire swarm. Can Ash save the day? You don't have the Marsh into a ghostly trap. Plus it's Butterfree mating season and life. Release 3 December quest for

PRIMEAPE

Unfortunately, that Pokémon to help. Will the joke Ash is trying for the Marsh Badge but ghost Pokémon are Haunter his only hope for defeating vince a free-spirited and practimeans that Ash has to conjoke-loving Sabrina! cal

December Release 3 be on Ash?



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Minten 5053

Donkey Kong 64 Nintendo's former



Platform: Nintendo 64 Stats: 1-4 Players

Style: 3D Adventure Distributor: Monaco

onkey Kong has returned in his first Nintendo 64 adventure and it's been well worth the wait. This time around, he's brought the entire Kong Klan with him: Diddy Kong, Lanky Kong, Tiny Kong and Chunky Kong. Once they are unlocked, their specialised skills will help you get past certain obstacles.

Donkey Kong 64 has possibly more styles of gameplay contained within it than any game I've ever played. There are two to four-player battle modes, first person shooting games, as well as racing games set on the road, the water and even a mine cart rollercoaster style racer. There is also a partial version of the original Donkey

Kong arcade game hidden in there somewhere.

However, for the most part Donkey Kong 64 is an explore and collect style game, much like Mario 64 and Banjo-Kazooie. The aim is to find 200 magical golden bananas and bring Dr K Rool's evil reign to an end. Most of the bananas are difficult to locate, involving the use of a certain Kong's special abilities. For example, Diddy can fly with the jet pack, while Tiny can shrink

and smash certain doors and obstacles. Team work is definitely the name

of the game.



bad

Donkey Kong 64 is a high quality adventure, with super smooth detailed graphics that do Nintendo's aging machine proud. The characters are lovable and incredibly polished. The environments are huge, hiding plenty of secrets and the teamwork nature of the gameplay works well. Fans of the big ape will go bananas over his latest adventure.

primate returns

herself, Lanky can climb steep slopes

and Chunky can lift huge boulders

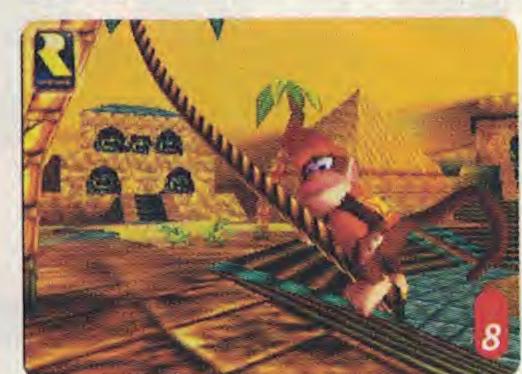


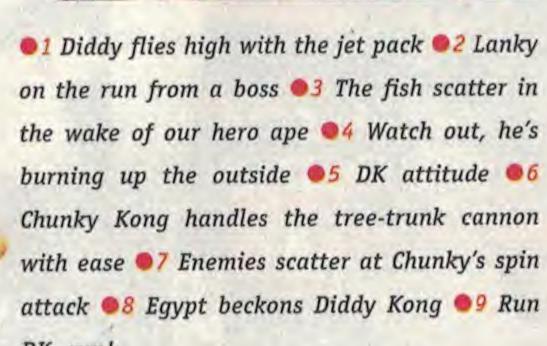




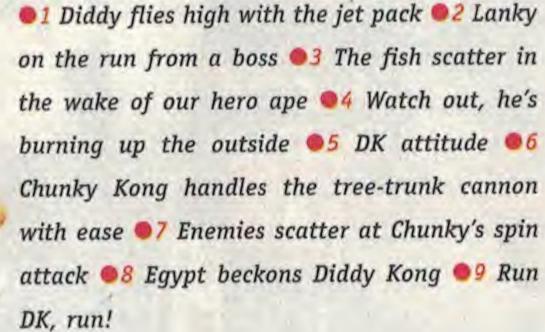












DONKEY WHO?

riginally appearing in the early eighties as the central villain for the Donkey Kong arcade game, the misunderstood ape has undergone some changes throughout the years. He was once a bad mannered barrel tossing menace, who stood in the way of perennial goody two shoes Mario. However, when Nintendo came under threat from the release of Sega's doomed 32-bit console, he was persuaded to join the side of good. He starred in Donkey Kong Country, a classic Super Nintendo platformer that featured the first pre-rendered graphics ever seen on a home console. Donkey Kong Country was hugely popular, going on to become one of the best-selling Nintendo titles of all time. These days Kong is as popular as ever and much friendlier.



Microsoft Sidewinder Dual Strike

ny advantage that you can gain in first person shooting games and 3D adventures is highly sort after and this controller is specifically designed to streamline control of this popular genre.

The unique thing about the Sidewinder Dual Strike controller is the way the right hand controller rotates to change your viewing angle, while the left hand controller handles running, dodging and sidestepping movements with ease. This system allows you to look in one direction and move in another, which is a boon for fast action 3D games like Unreal and Quake.

The combination of left and right hand controllers makes critical manoeuvres and master techniques like circle strafing more intuitive. It takes a few games to get used to the control methods but soon it becomes second nature and you'll be fragging enemies left right and centre. The Dual Strike is also very stylish and functional, with ergonomically arched hand grips that are comfortable to hold, even after hours of frantic action.

The Sidewinder Dual Strike has six programmable buttons, as well as a trigger button under each side. With the help of the shift button, each

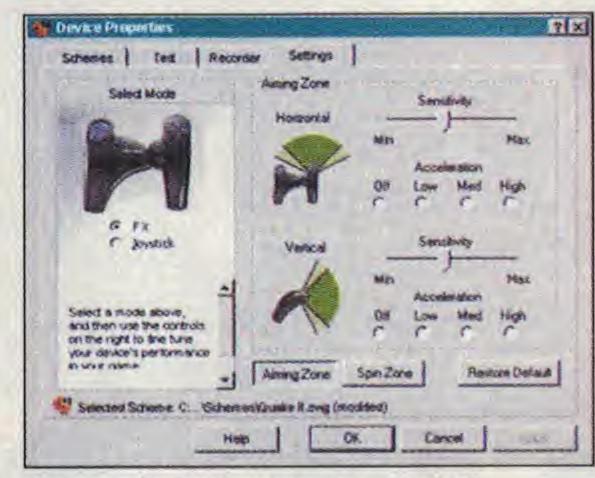




button can be assigned two functions, so you'll never have to touch the keyboard again.

The controller comes with all the necessary software for customising your control methods and plugs easily into your PC's USB port on the side of your keyboard, so you won't have to mess around behind your machine trying to figure out where to plug the thing in.

The Sidewinder Dual Strike is another excellent accessory from Microsoft that hardcore gamers will find very useful for improving their game. It combines the agility of a game pad with the precision of a mouse.



Microsoft Sidewinder Dual Strike

• These two shots give you an idea of how the controller swivels around on the ball joint to give you excellent freedom of movement.

Smart design puts all the buttons within easy reach and lets you connect through your keyboard's USB port. Simple!





Performance Ultra Racer

This analog controller looks like one of those old Tamiya remote controllers, only with more buttons. The Ultra Racer has been designed to provide accurate, no fuss control in all racing games. The control wheel only twists about an inch or two in either direction and then snaps back to the balance point when you let go, which is very helpful for preventing annoying oversteer in games. It also has 10 pro-

grammable buttons and a nifty trigger throttle control underneath. The controller fits comfortably in your hand but it may take a while to adapt to some of the button placements. However, once you get used to it, the Ultra Racer could help shave crucial seconds off your race times thanks to its deft and

accurate control.





Follows the adventures of Ruff and his twin sister Tumble. The mischievous duo is out to stop a gang of evildoers bent on runing the process of dreaming for ever. The only way to keep the dream world true is to rescue the 40 Winks that inhabit it before they are destroyed. If the kids succeed, no one will have nightmares ever again. "Free roaming" 3-D adventure Third-person-over-the-shoulder view (similar to Mario 64) Seven huge levels plus seven arcade sub levels. Tons of unique enemies and bosses. FEATURING RUFF & TUMBLE PlayStation

FI FINASTER

hints • codes • passwords

GAME BOY

Pokémon Yellow

Walkthrough:

(Continued from last month)

Celadon you'll see a bush you can cut down. It will lead you to a small secret house where a trainer will give you HM 02, Fly. There are also a few Pokémon in a grass patch here, including Doduo, Spearow, Fearow, Rattata and Raticate.

One of two Snorlax is found on Route 16. You'll need the Pokéflute to wake him up. He's a difficult Pokémon to beat. I suggest using a Pokémon that can put Snorlax to sleep before it gets the chance to use Rest to refill its energy.

of Bicycling Trail. There are many trainers here who carry
Pokémon like Grimer, Wheezing, and Machop. It would probably be best to carry a psychic with you here.
There's also a patch of grass where

There's also a patch of grass where you can catch Pokémon and numerous opportunities to fish. At the very end of Bicycling Trail, a chef will trade you a Tangela for a Parasect.

Saffron City

The first goal in Saffron is to free the Silph building from the hands of Team Rocket. Be sure you have room for all the items you'll find here. Team Rocket's leader, Giovanni, has a Rhydon, a Persian, and a Nidoqueen. Take care of them with a plant/water Pokémon, ground Pokémon and ice Pokémon, respectively. There are two gyms in Saffron; a fighting gym and a psychic gym. A ghost or psychic will do well in the fighting gym but you can use almost any Pokémon here. In the psy-

chic gym you should use a bug Pokémon. You'll have to go through a maze of warp tiles before you find the gym leader which means you'll also have to fight a few battles. Sabrina,

the gym leader, will have an Abra, a Kadabra, and an Alakazam (all at level 50!). She'll give you TM 46, Psywave.

There are a few places you'll want to visit in Saffron. Find the Copycat's house – she'll give you TM, Mimic if you give her a Pokédoll (found in Celadon Department Store). Also visit Mr Pyschic's home and he'll give you the very powerful TM 29, Psychic.

I. Fuchsia City

The most important place in Fuchsia City is probably the Safari zone. There are many rare Pokémon there but

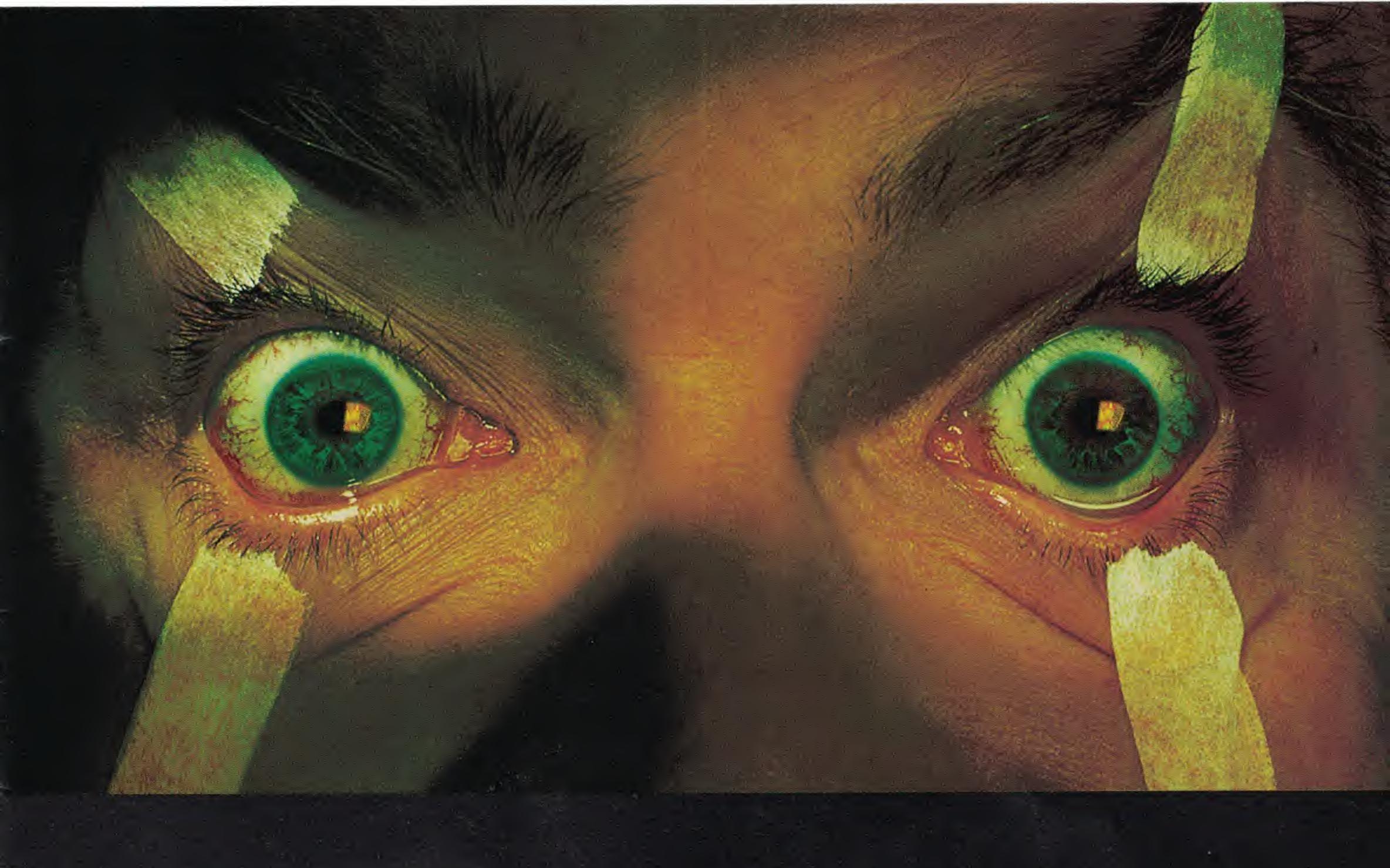
they're a bit difficult to catch because of the Safari Balls.

For \$500 you get 30 Safari Balls (barely enough to catch the decent Pokémon) or 400 paces, whichever comes first. In the Safari Zone you'll find several TMs and HM

Zone you'll find several TMs and HM 03, Surf. You'll also find a pair of Gold Teeth to give to the Safari Zone Warden in exchange for HM 04, Strength. You'll also find the eldest of the fishermen, who will give you the Best Rod (able to catch a variety of water Pokémon).

The gym in Fuchsia is one of the more difficult ones. Its trainers carry a mixture of psychic and poison Pokémon. There's also an invisible maze to go through before you face Koga, the gym leader. Koga has three Venonat and a Venomoth all above level 50. He'll give you TM 06. It contains Toxic, a very powerful poison move that inflicts more damage each time it works. More next month...

PlayStation.Nintendo 64.PC.GameBoy.Dreamcast



SPEED KILLS





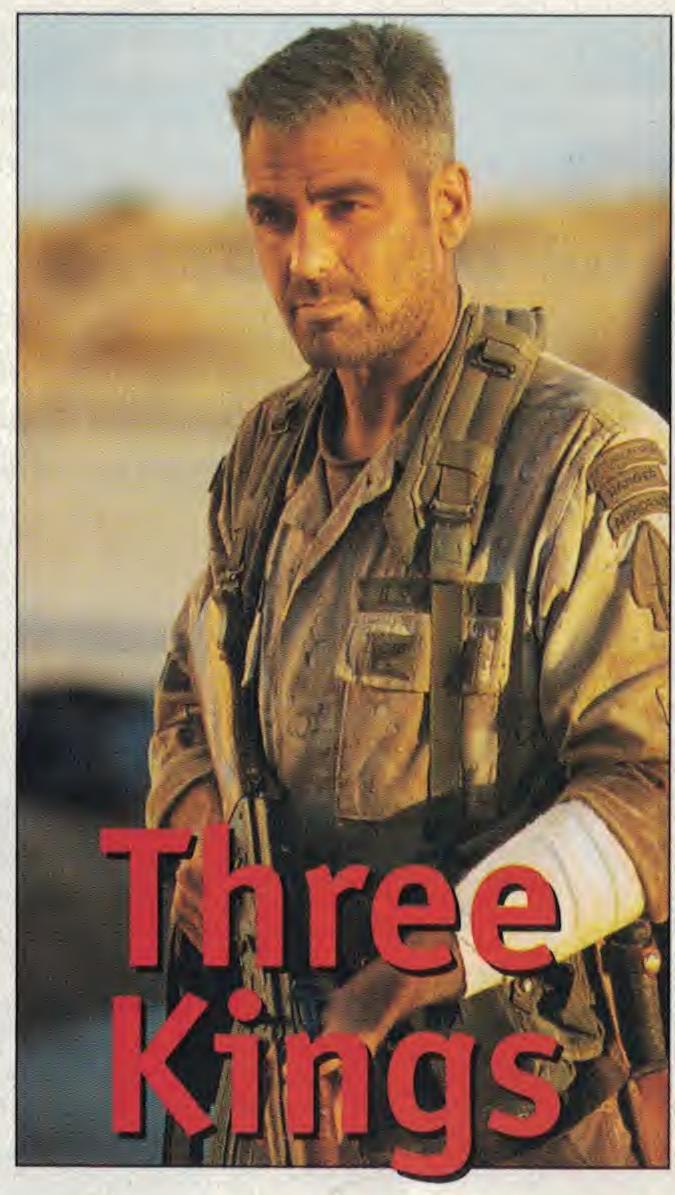


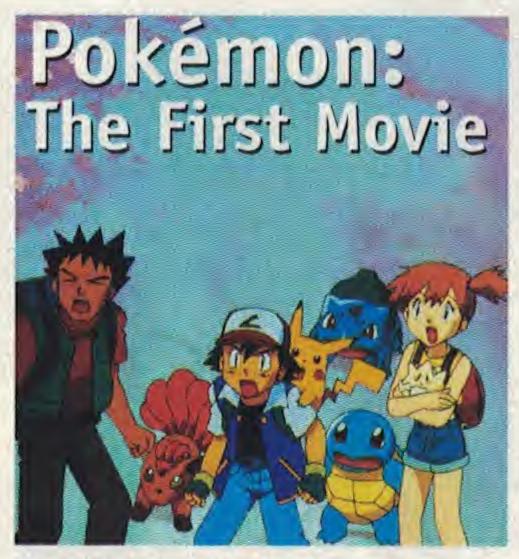


Starring: George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Ice Cube

In cinemas: 13 January

arch 1991, the Iraqi desert. A small group of adventurous American soldiers in Iraq at the end of the Gulf War are determined to steal a huge cache of Kuwaiti gold bullion stolen by the Iraqi army and reputed to be hidden somewhere near their desert base. Finding a map they believe will take them to the gold, they embark on a journey that leads to unexpected discoveries, enabling them to rise to a heroic challenge that drastically changes their lives.





Starring: Ash, Pikachu, Mewtwo
In cinemas: 16 December

A group of scientists has been working in a secret laboratory attempting to create the strongest Pokémon yet. For this, they have taken DNA from a fossilised hair sample (discovered in the Amazon) of the legendary Pokémon Mew, using the elusive creature's genetic code to bio-engineer Mewtwo. Unaware of their creation's power, the scientists and their

laboratory are destroyed by the awakening Mewtwo. Angered at his creators for making him the Pokémon equivalent of Frankenstein's monster, Mewtwo swears revenge on the world. Ash Ketchum is relaxing with his pals Misty and Brock when he is challenged to a Pokémon battle by a neophyte trainer. Ash, aided by his favourite and first Pokémon, Pikachu, easily defeats the trainer. A hologram of a beautiful girl appears, inviting the trio to a party held at the palace on New Island.

Once at the castle, the trainers are shown to a great hall by Joy, the beautiful girl who appeared in their hologram invitation. She introduces the trainers to their host – Mewtwo, a master trainer and the world's most powerful Pokémon, who reveals his plan to hijack the globe with a specially created race of Super-Pokémon.

What follows is the ultimate Pokémon match of all time, ending with a face-off between Mewtwo and the rare and powerful Mew.





COMPETITIONS TOTAL GAMES Competitions HOTLINE 0900 600 77

1. Crash Team Racing

The race track is dangerous place to be when that mad grinning Bandicoot gets behind the wheel.



In his latest PlayStation outing, Crash joins his friends Tiny, Coco, Polar and Dingo in a loose kart racing experience where weapons win the day and full speed is the only option. It's

going to be a huge hit this Christmas and to celebrate Sony are giving away a copy of the game, which comes in limited special

edition CD case. To win simply tell us the name of Crash's archrival.

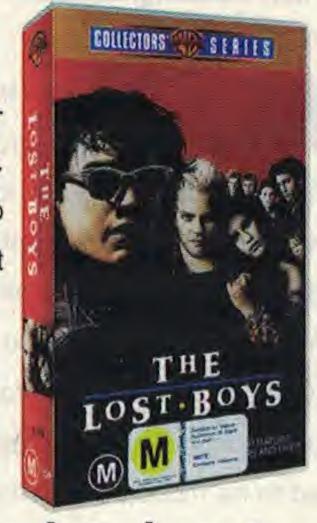
- 1. Ripto
- 2. Dr Neo Cortex
- 3. Professor Madcap

To enter our competitions, call the competition hotline and follow the simple instructions. The hotline for this month closes on 15 February. Calls cost 99 cents per minute. Children please ask your parents first. This service is provided by Telephone Information Ltd. Please call 09 524 0050 if you have any difficulties.

2. The Lost Boys

Kiefer Sutherland stars in this intense tale of a gang of bloodsucking Californian kids who sleep all day and party all night. These vampires have the run of the town and a nasty attitude to boot. The film is available to buy from 8 December for \$14.95 but to enter to win one of five copies, tell us how to kill a vampire.

- 1. Total body dismemberment
- 2. Silver bullet
- 3. Stake through the heart



3. Donkey Kong 64



Kong returns in his first Nintendo 64 adventure what a corker it is too. With the help his extended

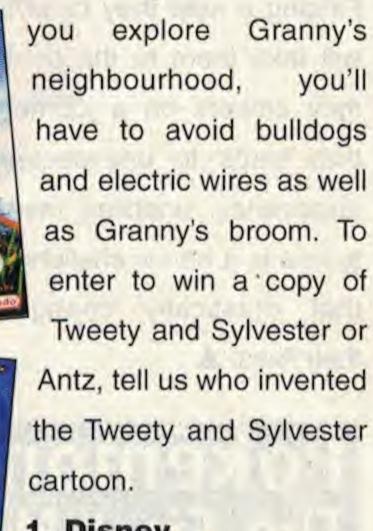
ape family, Donkey Kong must solve puzzles and overcome hundreds of beautifully detailed enemies. DK64 uses the Expansion Pack to boost its power, which

ensures the graphics are some of the finest ever seen on the Nintendo. We've got two copies of this vine-swinging, mine cart-racing adventure to give away, complete with the expansion pak. To win tell us the name of Kong's only female relative in the game.

- 1. Chunky Kong
- 2. Lanky Kong
- 3. Tiny Kong

4. Antz plus Tweety and Sylvester

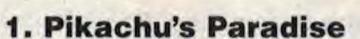
The Game Boy version of the DreamWorks movie is a classic 2D platformer set insect infested levels. Plus it's breakfast on the again Sylvester as he tries in vain to capture that smartaleck canary. As



- 1. Disney
- 2. Comedy Central
- 3. Warner Bros.

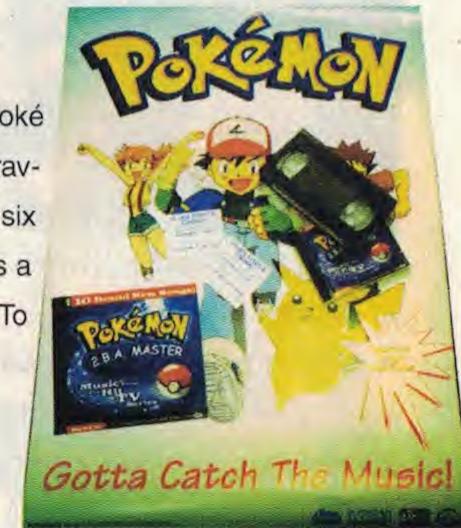
5. Pokémon

With the release of the first Pokémon movie, Poké madness is reaching fever pitch. To satisfy your craving for those adorable pocket monsters we have six Pokémon packs to give away. Each pack includes a CD, video, poster and double pass to the movie. To enter to win, tell us the movie's title.



2. Pokémon: The First Movie

3. Mewtwo Strikes Back



6. MTV Snowboarding

This newly released snowboarding game has been causing quite a stir, with its slick slope action. You can tear down the freestyle course and line up the rail for a huge slide and then launch off a cliff edge to get maximum air time. It's a pulse-racing experience in the white stuff, backed up by a seriously rocking soundtrack featuring the likes of Blink 182, Ministry and Fear Factory. To enter to win one of two

special packs that include a copy of the game, a poster and a beanie to keep your head warm on the slopes, tell us which of these tricks is unique to snowboarding.

- 1. Barrel roll
- 2. Kickflip







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